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Renewable Taos Newsletter - February 2018

1 message

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Newsletter

Hello, All — Remember to click on images and blue highlighted text for more information.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY IN AMERICA 2018 FACTBOOK

We highly recommend the 2018 edition of the **Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE)** overview of energy in America. BCSE, through **Bloomberg New Energy Finance (BNEF)** just released its sixth annual report. The 2013 through 2018 reports document the revolution in energy production, delivery and consumption in the USA.

The report documents substantial growth in the renewable energy sector. It demonstrates how renewable energy and energy efficiency supported a more productive USA economy.

The report observes that energy efficiency provided 2.2 million USA jobs in 2016. Solar power generation was responsible for nearly 374,000 jobs. In comparison, fossil fuel power generation accounted for 151,000 jobs.



RENEWABLE TAOS NEWSLETTER

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**RENEWABLE TAOS NEEDS
YOUR EXPERTISE AND
SUPPORT**

"The 2018 edition of the Sustainable Energy in America Factbook – produced for the Business Council for Sustainable Energy by Bloomberg New Energy Finance, provides up-to-date, accurate market information about the broad range of industries — energy efficiency, natural gas and renewable energy— that are contributing to the country's move towards cleaner energy production and more efficient energy usage."

Clean energy remains a focus for USA corporations that "...continue to play a strong role in the energy transformation, increasingly demanding cleaner energy and seeking to capture gains from energy efficiency."

The report details the numbers for shares of USA greenhouse gases emissions (2.7 gigatons, Gt) and dollars of USA economic output (\$7.4 trillion) represented by alliances adhering to the promises of the Paris Climate Agreement. The "We Are Still In" movement (sidebar), the **U.S. Climate Alliance**, and **U.S. Climate Mayors** represent large sectors of the American economy. These sectors are simply moving forward according to the terms of the Paris Climate Agreement despite the USA's announced withdrawal from the agreement..

KEY FINDINGS FROM THE 2018 BSCE FACTBOOK

American energy productivity has increased by 17.3% since 2008.

Natural gas and renewable energy generated 50% of U.S. electricity in 2017, up from 31% in 2008.

Clean energy and energy efficiency support over 3 million jobs in the U.S.

In 2017, U.S. power sector greenhouse gas emissions fell 4.2% to their lowest annual level since at least 1990.

A **state and regional energy snapshot** accompanies the larger BSCE report. This 20-page summary — all in easy readable graphics and maps — is required material for anyone wanting to understand energy in the USA.

For further information, please contact:
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CLEAN ENERGY FOR RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES



JOIN US TODAY AND CREATE YOUR SPECIAL ROLE IN THE EXCITING CLEAN ENERGY TRANSFORMATION

WE ARE STILL IN

In 2017, "...despite the federal government's announcement to withdraw from the Paris Agreement on climate change, U.S. corporations, states, and cities came together to pursue a sustainable future under the We Are Still In initiative."

LOOKING FOR WAYS TO BETTER CARE FOR OUR PLANET?

Renewable Taos is beginning a campaign to educate Rural Electric Cooperatives (RECs) about the economic advantages of making the transition to renewable energy. Our work in 2018, funded in part by the [Santa Fe Community Foundation](#), will focus initially on RECs in New Mexico.

We will provide outreach and educational services in the forms of a new web site, meetings with REC principals statewide, presentations to business and government entities, consultation with clean energy advocacy groups, and conversations with REC members.

Meanwhile, many RECs in Colorado are working with us on avenues to providing cleaner, cheaper renewable energy for their members. We are sharing the successes of our [Kit Carson Electric Cooperative](#) and [Guzman Energy](#) experiences in creating increasing amounts of renewable energy provided for Co-op members. We are examining the differences in NM and CO policies in support of renewables for RECs. We are seeking opportunities for replacing fossil-fuel energy sources for Colorado RECs with solar, wind and hydropower generators, and renewables purchased from the regional grid.



"Because electric cooperatives are non-profits owned by their members, they can navigate (the renewable) energy transition in ways that empower their members, without worrying about investor profits. At the same time, many electric cooperatives face unique challenges in moving from coal to clean energy."

We urge you to visit and spend some time navigating the Clean Cooperative web site. Clean Cooperative focuses a lot on Colorado, but also has a abundant information on New Mexico RECs. For example, the charts and tables [here](#) offer excellent overviews of membership and electricity demand for all Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association RECs in CO, NM, WY and NE.

RENEWABLE TAOS' LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR NEW MEXICO

Renewable Taos and [Taos United](#) principals began meeting in January 2018 with legislators and their staff members on creating legislation to boost clean energy growth and New Mexico's economy.



THE NEW MEXICO CLIMATE ACTION CALENDAR TELLS YOU WHAT'S HAPPENING NEARBY AND ACROSS OUR STATE

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL SOLAR ENERGY INSTALLERS



WE HAVE SOME OF THE BEST IN NEW MEXICO RIGHT HERE IN TAOS!

PLUG IN YOUR NEW ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) AND STOP BREATHING GAOELINE VAPOR

THE EV MARKET IS FULL OF NEW

Our policy work targets the 2019 NM Legislative Session. We will work throughout 2018 on a suite of directions for New Mexico to modernize its energy policy towards a clean, sustainable energy future.

Contact us to learn about our process. Travel to Santa Fe with our members in 2018 and become a part of creating clean energy policy for New Mexico.

Bob Bresnahan
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OUR MISSION

Renewable Taos is dedicated to promoting and facilitating a full transition to renewable energy and energy efficiency in Taos County and our surrounding region.

We advocate for local generation of renewable energy with an emphasis on local ownership.

We build community partnerships to facilitate the transition to renewables, and propose and support projects.

We recognize that energy efficiency is integral to the transition to renewable energy.

We also work with other organizations to change the political climate in the state and country to facilitate the transition to renewable energy and energy efficiency.

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Edited by: William M. Brown, February 2018

OPTIONS FOR YOU IN 2018



**CLICK HERE TO LEARN FROM
DAVID POGUE'S EXPERIENCE
WITH BUYING A PLUG-IN
HYBRID ELECTRIC CAR (PHEV)**

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**...THE AMAZON FOUNDATION
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TAOS. SIGN UP TODAY!**



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